HStrange Message

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> CHAPTER XXVI. WEDDING GAUDS.

IF Biddulph proved a little exacting, it did not seem to make Nora unhappy. Never had she looked so handsome as during the next three weeks, which was

the time of grace her lover had given her. Mrs. Conway-Hope, of course, had her sigh and her groan at "the unnecessary haste;" "but then, we were prepared for sighs and groans," said Biddulph; and, as Mrs. Conway-Hope now wished to remain at Rossmore after the wedding, she was obliged to restrain the expression of her jewel-case. her feelings to moderate limits.

Mrs. Jock, at Airdlinn, also thought Nora ought to have waited "a little you about the arrangements for the fifth, longer." The poor mother remembered the blow that would fall upon her absent boy when the news of Nora Stewart's marriage reached him, though she was too sensible not to know that a marriage

between them was now impossible. "He'll get over it the sooner," said Jock; "and Jeanie, we must not forget all Nora and Biddulph have done for us. What shall we give them for a wedding

present, do you think, my dear?"

In spite of her grief, Mrs. Jock was still woman enough to have an interest in a wedding present. For one thing they are most difficult to choose; for another, there is a charm about them which belongs to no other gift. The gray-haired matron, the widow in her black robes, still looks with a softened smile at the marriage presents which were given her, in the days when her life lay before her, clad in hope's delusive garb.

And Nora received many presents, as of the house party. well as the one which the kindly Jock

And Biddulph's aunt, Lady Barbara Biddulph, the widow of Gen. Biddulph, who had been the elder of the three which was characteristic of the woman.

"DEAR MISS STEWART-(Nora read with an amused smile)-My nephew James has written married soon; and, as it is customary for relations to do so on such occasions, I send you a therefore invited him to come to Ross- he had intended to be. small present. I myself am no great believer in the happiness of marriage, but some are, and I trust you will be among them. "Yours very truly,

"BARBARA BIDDULPH." "But Aunt Bab is not half bad, really," said Biddulph, with a laugh, after he had read this note. "I have known her to do some of the kindest things.'

The present was a handsome bracelet, of rather a rigid form. Still, Nora was pleased to receive it, and pleased to think her lover's people were going to greet her pleasantly. But the gift which surprised her most came from Alick Fraser.

When he had first heard that her marriage day was fixed he had given way to a perfect storm of rage, in which wounded vanity, disappointed love (or what he hought was love), and also the remembrance of the coveted acres which had passed away from him, were all strongly

It was a bitter blow to him, in fact; but Alick Fraser had the good sense to make that she had kept his secret, and told no one what he had offered to her.

And she had most honorably done this, not even hinting to Biddulph of all the wealth she had refused. And when Alick | while he was feeling her pulse; "that's heard them talking at Airdlinn of the plain to see. His bonny gray eyes grow present for Nora he was determined to give her a present, too, and made up his mind it should be such a one that she would begin to doubt the wisdom of her

He heard about the diamonds, of course, so he would have none of them. He actually went up town and chose a sapphire necklace and earrings of such value that | or delay. no one but a very rich man could have bought them; and, strange to say, he did

not grudge the money.
"I will show her," he thought, "what I rould have given her." And Nora, it must be admitted, had never liked Alick Fraser so well as when he came in person to present his splendid marriage gift. For there is no doubt that women, as a rule, are fond

He took her hand, as he was leaving in his strong grip, and a sort of softness crept into his brown eyes as he fixed them on her lovely face.

"Well, Miss Nora Stewart, I wish you all happiness," he said, not in his usual clear tones. "You know I wished things different, but it was not to be;" and, with another grasp of the hand, he left, and Nora stood looking pensively at his shining | right." sapphires after he was gone.

pain. Of course, she did not think of the such a rich man could only like her for herself. And she thought it was so kind | troduced her to his promised bride. and generous of him to give her this gorgeous present, too, not recognizing any

mixed motive here also. But Biddulph was not so charitable. Nora was still standing looking at the sapphires lying in their satin beds, when he | proudly and fondly on the woman of his came into the drawing-room, and was at once attracted by the massive circlet, set

with the magnificent stones. "What a splendid thing!" he exclaimed. "What millionaire has given you this,

"I want you to guess," she answered,

Biddulph, who was rather a good judge of gems, took t'e necklace from its case and examined it admiringly.
"They are perfect stones," he said, "and

the setting is magnificent. Well, who is the donor, my sweet?" "Alick Fraser." "Alick Fraser!" repeated Biddulph; and

he put the necklace rather hastily down. "Then the great Alick must have meant to cut us all out." "That is a very mean speech, and won't allow Mr. Biddulph to make it,"

said Nora, playfully putting her pretty hand over his lips. He held it there and kissed it tenderly.

"Perhaps I'm jealous," he said, "and that makes me spiteful. Have I any reason to be, Nora?" "No, none, none," she answered; "but you know very well you have none."

in my bosom. To me love means perfect

"It is perfect trust. But here is Cousin Mrs. Conway-Hope entered smilingly. "More presents?" she said, glancing at the cases lying on the table.

"The present, Mrs. Conway-Hope," answered Biddulph. "The richest man in the neighborhood has been determined to prove that he is so. These are truly regal."

Mrs. Conway-Hope examined the sapphires with her short-sighted eyes.

"I suppose they are real?" she said, touching them with her bony fingers.

"I suppose so," replied Biddulph, in a mock doubtful tone. "Oh, Cousin Margaret, Mr. Alick Fraser has just brought them! Real? I should

think so; they are splendid!" cried Nora indignantly. "Mr. Alick Fraser! Well, I am sur-prised, dear Nora. I always understood Mr. Alick was what the Scotch call 'near' -uncommonly 'near,' I have been told."
"Well, he has not shown it in his present, at all events," said Nora, fastening

"Apparently not. Well, my dear Nora, if I am not in the way, I want to talk to

"Which politely means that I am in the Conway-Hope, make the arrangements as short as you can." "But things must be done properly, Mr. Biddulph; and living so far in the

country as this it requires much consideration on the part of those who have the responsibility.' "I quite agree with you. Good-bye, then, for the present, Nora;" and Bid-

ulph smiled and went away. This conversation took place on the first of December, and Nora's wedding day to see. was fixed for the fifth. It was to be a very quiet affair, by the bride's wish; but still, as Mrs. Conway-Hope justly suggested, in | way. the country a great many arrangements are required to be made beforehand, even | just as though he had parted with her for a small party. And then, Nora had invited her two friends, Maud and Alice Lee, to stay with her for the occasion, and also Lord Glendoyne was to be one

rings; and Biddulph himself gave her some | then had gone south without saying any- "poor Minnie." beautiful diamond stars for her hair, and thing serious to the young girl; and Nora dulph had left her, Nora declared when | Highland flower, even before the miserashe wore them all she would be a blaze of | ble event which had cast so deep a shadow on the household at Airdlinn.

Minnie was to be one of Nora's bridesmaids, and it came into Nora's kind heart that, if Glendoyne would come north for | family. brothers, also sent Nora a gift, with a note | the wedding, there might be a chance of a match between them after all. Nora had always been on friendly terms with Glendoyne, whose languor rather amused to inform me that you and he are going to be her, and whose graceful manner made

Thus Nora expected four guests to stay with her, for she had also asked old Mr. Biddulph and Lady Barbara Biddulph. But the old lawyer had begged to be ex-

"It is too far for me to go in the winter time at my age," he had written to Nora; "but I am looking forward to seeing my new daughter under my own roof."

Lady Barbara, however, who was very energetic, had accepted the invitation, and was also to arrive at Rossmore on the 4th of December. Thus there were arrangements to be made, and Mrs. Conway-Hope felt herself justified in turning out the lover occasionally, whom she indeed

found terribly in the way. Biddulph, in truth, was never happy out of Nora's sight. He could scarcely understand himself, how this absorbing passion filled his whole being.

"If I read a page," he told her, "I want no display of his feelings. And he knew, to talk to you about it; and when I am not too, from the way in which his brother's near you I feel as if I had lost something, family talked to him of Nora's marriage, but when I begin to look about for it I remember it is--Nora!"

"He's unco' fond of her," the doctor (who was also to be one of the wedding guests) said once to Mrs. Conway-Hope,

sait each time they fa' upon her face." CHAPTER XXVII.

THE MARRIAGE EVE. It was a busy day, the fourth of December, at Rossmore, and the sun shone brightly during the morning, and the

wedding guests arrived without accident The girls, Maud and Alice Lee, had enstayed the night, and escorted them the rest of the way. But Lady Barbara, who had travelled only with her maid, had

found the weather chill and drear, and the journey long. True, Biddulph had met her at the station nearest Rossmore, but she was somewhat in an irritable "If I had known it was so far, and the wind so cutting, I never would have come, James, I can tell you that," she said, as her nephew handed her out of the railway carriage, and her rugs and furs

after her. "Your father was quite She was an erect, gray-haired, keen-For she was not a vain girl, this, and it eyed woman past middle age, and was grieved her to have given this strong man supposed always to speak her mind. She window curtains, which had been closed did this as she entered the softly lighted coveted acres, and naturally supposed that | drawing-room at Rossmore half an hour later, when Biddulph led her up and in-

"So you are Leonora Stewart, are you?" said Lady Barbara, keenly regarding her. 'Well, you are good to look at, anyhow." "Her looks are not the best of her, Aunt Bab," said Biddulph, as his eyes rested

Nora was, in truth, looking very handsome. The excitement had lent a lovely blush to her fair cheeks, and she was dressed to perfection in dark-green plush and otter. Her manner, too, was very charming, as she clasped Lady Barbara's

bony hand. "It is so good of you to come, Lady Barbara, all that long way," she said.
"If I had known it would have been so cold," answered Lady Barbara, "as I have been telling this nephew of mine, nothing should have induced me to come. But, as I am here, I have no doubt I shall enjoy

myself, as much as anyone ever does at weddings, at least." Nora laughed softly and saw about Lady Bab's comfort. Then she took her up to the warm, comfortable bedroom that was | with loathing, with sudden anguish, gaz- face-then I shall know." prepared for her, and Lady Bab glanced round approvingly.

"You have a nice place here," she said.
"The old colonel's place, that James inherited, is not far off, is it?" "Just across the loch." "So you two were neighbors, and fell in love with each other, I suppose? Well, I quite sorry for you. I admit you have think James has made a good choice, as been the victim of a shabby trick, and, on

"I have no fear."

"Quite right to stand up for him; and I expect and trust that he will. But don't let me detain you from your other guests. I shall make my appearance at dinner-

And a very good appearance it was. When Lady Barbara re-entered the draw-ing-room she wore velvet and point lace, and, with her gray hair and diamonds, looked a very dignified lady indeed. The whole party soon assembled, and Jock Fraser, with his shy, pretty, fair

Minnie leaning on his arm, presently entered the room. Nora led him up to Lady Bab, who received him graciously. "And are you to be at the wedding to-morrow, Mr. Fraser?" she asked. "I am to have the honor of giving away

the bride," answered Jock. "She's a handsome creature," said Lady Bab. "It's a pity she is a little lame." "But that was an accident, you know, and will all go right in time. I shall never forget the day it happened;" and into his kind brown eyes, for he was

thinking of his boy. Mrs. Jock had refused to come, and also had declined to appear at the marriage

and tears came into her blue eyes as she spoke; "it would only upset me. Jock will take Minnie. I am better at home." And Nora felt that perhaps this was true. Mrs. Jock's jealous love for her son | to sudden fury. would have made her miserable, seeing sent her Minnie, and this fair girl, with a | Go! don't speak another word, for you are blush and a start, had recognized Lord | dead to me!" Glendoyne, whom she had not expected

He crossed the room and shook hands with her in his usual languid, elegant | come down here and tell you the whole

"Very well-at least, not very well," answered Minnie, with heaving breast and

trembling lips. Nora's reason for asking the good-look- dreadful story about poor Malcolm, and of pretend to be dead still." could ill afford. James Biddulph's father, ing Anglo-Indian she kept a profound se- their trouble and grief. Glendoyne did who was rich, wrote a pleasant letter to cret, even from Biddulph. But the truth know all about it. On the way from writhing lips. He covered his face with his future daughter-in-law, and sent her a was that Glendoyne had paid pretty Min- Edinburgh Maud Lee had told him the his hand; intense anguish overwhelmed half fainting." pair of really magnificent diamond ear- nie Fraser a great deal of attention, and said she was so sorry for his soul.

remembered, as she graphically detailed her come to such an awful end. You rettitude seemed terribly familiar, the tragedy in the Glen, that Lord Glenmember the letter you wrote me, telling "That has done me good," s dovne was supposed to admire Minnie

But after dinner was over, to Maud Lee's annoyance, Glendoyne found his way to Minnie's side instead of her own. He was a very gentlemanly man, and the down to Scotland again, and get more thought of the poor girl's trouble made him more attentive to her than, perhaps,

wery pleased when he accepted the inviwas bending over her. "I know some one else who looks very

"I don't know about being pretty, but I

like him, she thought; and Lady Barbara, looking at these two at this moment with her keen gray eyes, was satisfied that kept his eyes steadily on her face. their affection for each other was very

They kept the party up late, but at last Jock Fraser rose and said it was time for Minnie and himself to be crossing the water. Biddulph also was going to return to Dunbaan, as it is not considered | deavor to get £1,000 from you as a little lucky for the bridegroom to sleep in the house on the night before the marriage. sure you would never find out the differ-Nora went out of the drawing room with Minnie, and, after she had parted with her half-cousins, she was re-crossing the

hall, when she encountered Biddulph. "I have waited for one last sweet kiss," he said, drawing her arm through his. "Come down this corrider, Nora, and we | the hand, drew her beneath the bright

She went with him and he took her in "I like Aunt Bab," she said softly, lift-

ing her dewy eyes to his. "I did not come here to talk about Aunt Bab, my dearest, my sweetest love. I thank heaven this is our last parting!"

About an hour later, perhaps, Biddulph was sitting in his own library at Dunbaan, thinking of Nora still, and no man ever thought of his future wife with more complete content. Nora Stewart satisfied every wish of his heart and every desire joyed the long cold journey, because Lord of his soul. She was a perfect woman to Glendoyne, by Nora's arrangement, had mind, physically and mentally—the fairmet them at Edinburgh, where they had est, purest, and most lovable he had ever known. And to-morrow was his wedding day! To-morrow by this time he and Nora would be far away from here-far away from a place haunted for them both with such painful recollections still.

He got up to stir the fire and light his pipe. He had not been in the room many minutes when he did this, and as he bent over the fire a slight noise behind him attracted his attention. He turned sharply around and as he did so he staggered back, the poker fell from his hand, and a look of unutterable horror and dread came

over his face. Was he mad? Had his brain suddenly reeled over? he thought, with quick fear. There, standing between the half-parted when he entered the room, was the form, the mocking face of the woman who had once been his wife, whom he had seen lain in the grave in the kirkyard at Balla!

Biddulph was a brave man, but an inexpressible shuddering dread passed over him at this moment. He put his hand up to his head, he rubbed his eyes; it might be a delusion. It was there still; the next moment the familiar voice-the voice of the dead-sounded in his shocked ears! "I am afraid I have given you a start."

"Woman! fiend! why are you here?" now burst from Biddulph's white lips. "Why have you arisen from the dead to disturb my peace!" "Perhaps I have not risen from the dead," answered those mocking lips; and the form slowly advanced toward him. "I'm awfully cold, James; may I come

beside the fire and have a chat?"

Biddulph stood staring at her, bewildered-horrified. "You think I am a ghost, but I'm not. expression passed away from his own. There! feel my hand and my arm; they are substantial enough," and she laughed. She put out her hand and touched Biddulph's as she spoke; the hand was warm. And the man, with wide distended eyes, ing at her face, saw it was seemingly the face of a living woman—the face of Nata-

lie. Oh, God, the face of Natalie! "What hideous farce is this?" he cried. "I saw you die; I saw you dead! Howhow are you here?"

"My poor James, do you know I feel is the lady?" and she pointed to Nora's quite sorry for you. I admit you have portrait. "Yes," answered Biddulph, withintense

"I hope not. The 'green-eved monster' far as I can see, and I hope he will make my honor, if I had not been obliged to do bitterness, "that is the lady;" and he not a creature I should like to nurse a good husband." it, I should have let you believe I was crossed the room as he spoke, and took dead still! It was not me you saw die, it | Nora's picture in his hand. "Look at her was not me you saw dead; it was my twin- | face!" and he held the photograph where sister, Josephine, and no one could ever | the woman could more plainly see ittell the difference between us." "Your twin-sister?" repeated Biddulph | with an angel soul-to whom evil is an hoarsely, still staring at her face. "I never heard of a twin-sister—of any sister." The woman shrugged her shoulders.

"No, we did not mention the name of poor Josephine in the family circle. The truth is, James, that my twin-sister Josephine made a sad fool of herself in her youth, some years before I saw you, and ran away with a married man, and went down, down, I don't know where—very low, at any rate, and my mother would never hear her name mentioned. She was supposed to be dead, in fact, but, strange to relate, she cast up last year, when I was at Monte Carlo, before I came

nothing about her to you.' "And you mean to tell me," said Bid-dulph, forcing himself to speak, and then Jock sighed, and a far-away look came | pausing, overcome by the horror of the position in which he found himself-"you

mean to tell me-that you are-"I am Natalie Biddulph, if every one had their dues. But I declare I am sorry for you. I did not know until I got here "Don't ask me, Nora, my dear," she to-night that to-morrow was to be your way," laughed Biddulph. "Please, Mrs. said, when Nora was pressing her to do so, second wedding day. You have been pretty quick about it, you know, James, for a despairing widower;" and again she laughed.

This misplaced mirth roused Biddulph "I believe it's all a hateful lie!" he cried. another occupy a place she had fondly I believe you are a fiend—some fiend in hoped would have been his. But she had .that woman's shape! I saw you dead. and—and all the dreadful scene you will

But the woman did not flinch. "It's all very fine talking like that," she hand, but he pushed her away. "Give said; "but I'm not dead, and I'm forced to me two thousand, then, less even, rather story, because I am so hard up. There-"And how have you been?" he said, don't swear, but that's the truth. I've ust as though he had parted with her had a frightful run of ill luck at Monte Carlo, and could only scrape enough money together to get back to England, and come down here-indeed, I had to borrow itand I must have some, James. And, if you She was wondering if he knew all the like, if you will pay me well for it, I'll

No word came from James Biddulph's

"Come, you need not break your heart "And so am I," he had answered; and | about it. I admit it's rough on you, but I me that it had got blown about here that Fraser, so she thought it as well that he I was really your wife? Well, when I got should know all the disadvantages of the that letter I was in a great rage, because you said in it you would put me back on my old allowance, if the story of our marriage came out. Josephine was with me in town then, and she urged me to go dently would pay any amount to keep the marriage a secret. But I was ill at the rain driving past him. time, and, as I told her, our interviews "It is is no matter," posed to personate me, and declared you would never find out the difference.'

Biddulph put his hand down, and again began staring at the woman's face with a know I am very happy," she said softly, looking up at his handsome face.

She felt proud of him—proud of his love, and his good looks. There was no one mole on my cheek. You remember the

little mole, don't you?" Biddulph shuddered, spoke no word, but "Poor Josephine had little or no money

and wanted some to try her luck at the gambling-tables, as we had fixed to go to Monte Carlo together. Well, to make a long story short, we settled between us that she was to go to Scotland and enence between us. I wrote the letters, but poor Josephine was the woman you were suspected of murdering. So, you see, I

am not a ghost, after all. As she paused, Biddulph started to his feet, went up to her, and, seizing her by

lamp-light. "Let me look at you," he said hoarsely, gazing gloomily at her face. "How do I know you are not lying now, as you have lied all your life? There were two of you, you say-two devils. How do I know which you are?"

"I am Natalie," said the woman, moving "You look changed. I begin to doubt. I shall see you both face to face-the living and the dead. Then I shall know." "You won't drag the poor woman out of

her grave, surely, will you? Oh, James, spare me this!' "Have you spared me?" he answered, in a hollow voice. "Do you know what you have done? To-morrow-A groan broke from his white lips as he

uttered the last word, and his expression was so terrible that it moved even the woman's callous heart to some sort of pity. "Don't make such a row about it," she said. "Get married to-morrow, as you intended, and I'll not say a single word. I'll go away early in the morning, if you'll give me a check for £5,000, and no one shall ever know I've been here, except

him, too." Biddulph flung back her hand, as she said this, which he had been still holding in his fierce grip, and once more sank

that old man of yours, and you can bribe

her at her word?-pay her, and let her go | the southern end will be four tennis courts. away, whoever she might be? Her face | The race track is being put in excellent shape, | plan. seemed changed to him-older, harder, and some fine racing is promised. but still the same face; the face that had been the black bane of his life, and had now come to snatch the cup of joy from

Should he do this? Again he looked up. The woman had turned her back to him, and was warming her feet at the fire, as he remembered at this moment seeing Natalie do when she had been in his room before. But how did he know this was Natalie? This hideous doubt-this likeness, which the woman admitted was so strong, made the difference to him between misery and joy, between happiness

and unutterable shame! And Nora? At this moment Biddulph's eves fell on one of Nora's photographs' which was standing framed on the mantelpiece, and as he looked at it, at the fair, noble, gentle face, that dark and doubtful

"I will not lie to her, I will not deceive her," he mentally decided. "I shall go to [Life.] He-"Why, it is growing quite dark! You can hardly distinguish the people at the her now and tell her the truth, and tomorrow the woman that is lying dead at Calla and this woman shall be put face to something around me." He had made up his mind. He moved

slightly, and the woman at the fireplace "That's so!" turned round and looked at him. Epitaph for Gresham. "Well," she said, "will you agree to this? Give me five thou and pounds, and I'll not interfere with you? I suppose this [St. Louis Republic.]

"the face of a pure woman, of a woman unknown thing, and sin but a name! This woman was to be my wife to-mor-row; and when we talked of our future life, how do you think we planned to

"As most people do, I suppose," answered the woman, with a shrug.

"Not in gambling, nor drunkenness," said Biddulph, with scathing scorn. "We planned to spend it in houest work, and trying to do some little good. And do you think I'd deceive such a one for you? Do you think I would bribe you to go away to-night, and fear you always like a nightmare? Don't I know what you would down here to see you, you know, after do if I were to put the hush-money, as you got your money; but naturally I said you call it, into your hand? You would you call it, into your hand? You would lose it at your favorite gambling tables, and then come for more! Come with a threat-a hint, perhaps, in the ears of my pure wife!"

> "What do you mean to do, then?" "I will tell you what I mean to do. I shall go now and tell the truth to the woman I was to marry to-morrow; and I shall have the grave opened, where I befleve Natalie is sleeping still."

"Then you don't believe a word of what I've been telling you?" "I do not. I believe you are this twinsister, this Josephine you pretend came

"I swear I am not, James. And just think what you are going to do; think what this poor young lady even will feel, make if you open poor Josephine's grave. What is a little money to this?" And she approached him and tried to take his

than all this." Biddulph gave a harsh and bitter

"No," he said; "I will know the truth. You have brought this on yourself, Josephine, or Natalie, whichever you be, and I mean to lock you up here until I

"I should never have come if I had not | so as to break the native fare upon the been reduced to my last shilling. Will party gradually. If we work in the sheepyou give me something to drink? for I am

He crossed the room and opened a small cabinet, where wine and spirits were standing, and the woman eagerly drank two valuable diamond bracelets; so, with bad heard from her father, and had her the splendid necklace the late Col. Bid- self noticed a great change in this fair had been telling him did not. Maud Lee scheme, but poor Josephine's that made curiously as she did so, and her look and

"That has done me good," she said, drawing a long breath. "I can't get on without it now. "You had better take some more, then," he answered. "I am going now. I shall not be long away." He left the room as he spoke, locking the door behind him, and putting the key down to Scotland again, and get more into his pocket. Then he opened the money out of you, as, she said, you evi- house-door and looked out. It was a dark and stormy night, fierce gusts of wind and

"It is is no matter," he thought gloomwere never over-pleasant. Then she pro- | ily; "what can anything matter to a man going on an errand such as mine?" (To be continued next week)

> Old Point Comfort is rapidly filling with West Baden Springs is accommodating parties from Northern Kentucky and Southern In-

THE SUMMER RESORTS.

The White Sulphur Springs of Virginia lacks its full quota of guests. July usually brings the crowd. Sec'y Whitney and family have left their Washington residence and gone to the Warm

Springs, Va., for the summer. Wisconsin summer resorts are preparing for a prosperous season. Nearly all of the large hotels will be open early this month. At Cotuit Port, one of the oldest summer resorts on the south side of Cape Cod, the coming

season promises to be the most successful for The Weirs, the most noted resort on Lake Winnipeseegee, was opened for the season last Saturday and never started off so auspeciously

Already there are more cottagers at Bar Harbor than there were last year at this time, and among the number are lots of new faces. The hotel opened July 1. Hull's cove, two miles from Bar Harbor, has recently sprung into prominence as a summer resort, and its lovely slopes are furnishing

charming sites for cottages. At Newport the trades people are all gay and dissipated just now. Their harvest time is coming, and they are on the lookout to secure customers from the newcomers, who are generally rich picking for the enterprising.

Mrs. Langtry is contemplating the engagement of the Wallack cottage at Long Branch, the property of Mr. R. J. Dobbins. It is pleasantly situated among a cluster of trees back of Ocean-ave., and has a commanding view of the

The tide of travel to Long Branch has set in. Many cottagers from New York, Philadelphia and elsewhere have already opened their houses. The number of applications for rooms at the hotels is quite large and everything points to a bright and prosperous season. The National temperance society will hold

its annual temperance camp-meeting at Ocean Grove, beginning Wednesday, August 1, and

The Fred Vanderbilts are absorbed in the building of their fine new house at the end of the avenue in Newport, where the old Dunnell place used to be. It gets on slowly, but surely, and promises well. A more magnificent location could not be desired, even by a fastidious billionnaire, for it stands at just a particular corner of the Cliff walk where the view of sea, and sky, and rocks, and landscape is beyond the feeble power of a stub pen to describe or express. The house is built after the fashion of the day, long and low, of stone and wood, picturesquely and substantially. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt are in town and overseeing the work as it goes on. One often sees them driv- erner. A committee was appointed to confer ing quietly and unostentatiously like the e-mannered, gentle people they are. Mr. Vanderbilt, in a black overcoat, such as any ordinary citizen might wear, and Mrs. Vandebilt, closely veiled and dressed in most unobtrusive garments, which yet show to the practised eye the touch of swell tailors and dress-

makers .- New York Mail and Express. He Understood Her.

She-"And rather cool, too. I ought to have He (with a familiar movement of the arm)-

Epitaph for Gresham: "Died of the journalistic colonels-Col. Medill of the Chicago Tribune, Col. Nixon of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, and Col. McCullagh of the St. Louis Globe-

TO EXCAVATE IN BABYLONIA.

A Party of American Explorers Going to Study the Mounds in Central Asia.

[New York Sun.] Dr. John P. Peters, professor of Hebrew in the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Harner, instructor in Assyrian at Yale college, and Mr. J. D. Prince, of the class of 1888, Columbia college, will leave this morning on the steamship Fulda for London, with the purpose of eventually conducting explorations and excavations in Babylonia, Middle Asia. They will be accompanied by Mr. J. H. Haynes, photographer, and Mr. H. P. Field of Brook-

The only previous expedition of arch-æological character to Babylonia was the Wolfe expedition of 1884, though French and German savants have long prosecuted their researches in this region. The expenses of Dr. Peters' party will be defrayed by the Babylonian exploration fund, which has been subscribed by citizens of Philadelphia. Among the members of the executive committee of this fund are Prot. Allen Marquand of Princeton and Mr. Langley, secretary of the Smithsonian institution. While describing the nature of the expedition to a Sun reporter last evening, Dr. Peters said:

"Babylonia is the general name for the whole region around the city of Babyion. It is a vast plain, dotted with mounds, which indicate the burial places of ancient cities. The mound over the city of Babylon is about ten miles square; that over Erach ten miles square. Other mounds are very small and cover probably only single palaces. Just where we shall excavate, how long we shall stay and what we shall do with the inscriptions or relics discovered, all depends on the result of negotiations now pending with the Turkish government. We shall all meet at Aleppo, a four days ride on horseback from Alexandretta, about Oct. 1. We shall then ride on horseback six weeks through the mountains, with a caravan to Bagdad. We go armed, not so much on account of the brigands, which are not so numerous as formerly, as to protect ourselves from the wild beasts. Nights we shall go into camp, I bought return from Rossmore; you shall not es-cape me now." our tents to-day. I have ordered 1,000 cans of fruits and meats for the journey, raising section we can get plenty of mutton, otherwise we must live on goat flesh and goat milk. Wheat, I am glad to say, grows wild there, so that we need not want for something like bread. The Arabs, who will do the excavating proper, will be paid 10 or 20 cents a day. Their work is correspondingly Bad. If we make large excavations we shall employ two, three or four hundred. The picks and shovels we take with us. As an work with baskets. I may have the experience of the American who first tried to use wheelbarrows in Brazil, where the natives put them on their heads and then piled the things on top of them. We have made all arrangements for one year's work, though everything depends on our success and the disposition of the Turkish

government." Boodle Loose in Chicago. CHICAGO, July 3 .- Much excitement exists around the city hall growing out of rumors that some of the aldermen have been approached in the interest of one of the elevated franchises from the council to operate on the West side. It is alleged that agents have visited several of the city fathers and offered them blocks of stock of the par value of \$5,000 in exchange for a vote for the ordinance grantin the franchise to the road in question. It is for shooting at a barber. The judge is reported to have said: charged by Alderman Rix with having offered him \$5,000 worth of stock for a vote. Sittig denies it vigorously. Alderman Reich, who is also blerk in Judge Jamieson's court, and was pre nt when the boodle county commis were tried and sentenced, declares, with the most solemn oaths, his innocence, adding: "I

want no boodle in mine." The Hand of Elkins.

[Detroi | ree Press..] Steve Elkins has long been known as the right bower of the man from Maine. He is also known as one of the bosom friends of ex-Senator Dorsey. He is further known as one of the most astute as well as unscrupulous politicians most astute as well as unscrupulous politicians in the United States. Those who know him well know that as a politician honor is a stranger to him. He would not hesitate to debauch men or politics provided he could turn the act to his own account. He plays with men as if they were puppets. This is astuteness. He uses their passions and their weaknesses to gain his ends. There is his unscrupulousness. This is the map who virtually brought about This is the man who virtually brought about the nomination of Benjamin Harrison. He is the real force, because in his hands Harrison would have to do as Elkins commanded him to The obligations weigh too heavy, and Elkins is the last man to let this opportunity pass by unnoticed. If Blaine had been the nominee Elkins would have been his subordi-

nate. But with Harrison, Elkins is on top.

What the G. O. P. Proposes, (Buffalo Courier.) The proposition of the republican party is continuing five days. The speakers will be George W. Bain, Edward Carswell, Mrs. Emily L. McLaughling, Bishop John P. Newman, Miss Julia Coleman, Rollo Kirk Bryan, Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, Rev. Dr. T. L. Poulson, Rev. W. W. Steele and others of prominence. Rev. J. N. Steele and others of prominence and the prom

It remains to be seen how the masses like the

Opposed to the Mills Bill. FT. WORTH, Tex., July 3 .- A state convention of farmers, laborers and stock raisers of Texas met here to-day and nominated a state ticket and adopted a platform. The platform denounces the Mills bill for placing wool on the free list, denounces the repeal of the internal revenue laws, demands the abolition of the national bank system and the election of the president and vice-president by the people. The state ticket is headed by Evan Jones of Erath county for governor and H. M. Broils of Tarrant county for lieutenant-govwith the union labor state convention to meet here July 5 and to urge the union labor party to endorse the ticket nominated here to-day. An active campaign was decided upon.

A Good Choice.

[New Albany Ledger.] Mr. S. P. Sheerin of Indianapolis, at present vice-chairman of our state central committee has been chosen secretary of the national democratic committee. It is a good selection. Mr. Sheerin is an ardent, consistent, conservative democrat. He possesses the requisite qualifications for the place. He is thoroughly well posted in Indiana, where hard work is always necessary for success in political campaigns.

Why the Kids Celebrated. [Richmond Democrat.] The greatest enthusiasm on the reception of the news of Harrison's nomination was among the kids. We suppose it is because he is a kid

The state of siege at Havana, Cuba, has been raised, brigandage having been suppressed.

PRESIDENT JACKSON'S PIPE. A Donation to the New England Historic

Genealogical Society. [Boston Transcript.] In our report of the last meeting of the New England historical genealogical society we stated that the Hon. William A. Richardson, LL.D., of Washington, D. C., chief justice of U.S. court of claims, has sent to the society as a donation the last pipe smoked by President Jackson at the executive mansion. Judge Richardson accompanied the gift with the following

"In February or March, 1837, a few months before President Jackson left the white house at the expiration of his term of office, an old friend and admirer, with

his little daughter, made a farewell call upon him.
"They found the president in his room alone, smoking his pipe, having on his dressing-gown, slippers and smoking-cap, and sitting by a wood fire with his feet upon a brass fender. As they were leav-ing, the president said: 'My little girl, what can I do for you?' The child, charmed by the pipe with its long stem and red top, and looking wistfully at it, exclaimed: 'Oh, if I could only have that pipe to blow soap bubbles with!' To this the president said: 'You shall have it, my chila; I will send it to you.' He did not forget nor neglect his promise. Soon after the president had left Washington, his private secretary, by his direction, took the coveted pipe to the little girl. This was the last pipe smoked by President Jackson in the white house

"It came into my possesion from the original donor just fify years after its presentation to her by President Jackson. "The mahogany of which the box is made is part of the inside shutters taken

out of the west windows of the state dining-room of the executive mansion (white house) in the course of alteration.' The following incident relating to President Jackson and Judge Richardson, which is told in a paper by Mr. Z. E. Stone, on "The Visit of President Jackson to Lowell in June, 1883," may be interesting in this connection. The paper was read before the Old Residents' historical

society Nov. 11, 1875, and is printed in their published "Contributions," no. 2, page 132: "The course of the presidential party toward Nashua was that generally traveledon the south side of the Merrimac river. While psssing through Tyngsborough a boy came out upon an eminence which commanded a fair view of the president and his companions. He had in his hand a fowling-piece, having that morning been out hunting, without a thought, however, of the possibility of coming upon the lions which he suddenly confronted. When the president's barouche came opposite experiment I have also ordered six the air and gave three as vigorous the lad snatched off his cap, swung it in wheelbarrows, though the natives always "hurrahs" as his small voice would permit, at the same time discharging his gun. "Observing the act of the boy, the president removed his hat and bowed with as much formality as he would have done had there been a regiment before him. The boy who was favored with this consideration was the Hon. Wm. A. Richardson, a native of the town, late secretary of

the treasury of the United States."

MAKING IT SMOOTH.

A Texas Judge Paves the Rough Road to Texas judges do not administer the railroad companies which are now seeking laws in a spirit of cruelty, but give the

further alleged that there had been a mix in the diplomatic work, and that the agents had gone to the wrong parties, having been deceived by the similarity of names. A well known politician named Eugene A. Sittig is charged by Alderman Picture 1. Sitting is controlled to have said:

"You have no trade, I suppose; a trade at which you can work and make an honest living. I am now going to point out to you an opportunity by which you out to you an opportunity by which you will be able to better your condition. It is this: When you get to the penitentiary you must select a trade-the shoemaker's the carpenter's or some such pursuit. But do your duty and you will have nothing to fear. Several months will be knocked off the time for which you are to attend these services and you will be presented with a new suit of clothes that will make you look handsome and stylish. You will also be givenmoney enough to pay your way back home, to this country or any other to which you may want to go. You will get back in picnic season, just in time to cut a swell with the girls. Everything portends for you a bright and useful career. Now go back to jail with the sheriff and

wait until arrangements can be made for your departure; I assure you it will not be "Yes sah, yes sah, jedge. I'se much obliged to you gentlemens for taking sich interest in my future comfortment." He then walked away light-hearted and smiling, only seeming to regret that he

hadn't got a chance to go long before. Diseases of Wine-Tasters. The diseases of wine-tasters, says the Deutsche Medizinal Zeitung, were studied by Donnet of Bordeaux, and Dr. C. Marandon of Dijon. Wine-tasters are frequently suffering with disturbances similar to alcoholism, although the claret-tasters do not swallow the wine, but, on the contrary, reject it, and even rinse their mouths afterward. In one case of Dr. Donnet's a man thirty-two years old used Miss Julia Coleman, Rollo Kirk Bryan, Gen.
Clinton B. Fisk, Rev. Dr. T. L. Poulson, Rev.
W. W. Steele and others of prominence. Rev.
J. N. Steerns, corresponding secretary of the society, will preside.
The work of building the new Casino at Arcadian park on the Eagle Lake road, Bar Harbor, is being pushed briskly. A large gang of men are employed and it is confidently expected that the building will be completed by present an antidistry-two years old used to taste every day thirty or forty samples of the wealth of the country. In other words, the party says to the masses: "In order that the kingh protected classes may continue to levy heavy taxes on your industries with which to enrich themselves, and in order that the wheels of industry may not be entirely stopped by a complete locking up of the working capital of the country in an idle surplus, we propose to to taste every day thirty or forty samples of the wealth of the country. In other words, the party says to the masses: "In order that the heavy taxes on your industries with which to enrich themselves, and in order that the wheels of industry may not be entirely stopped by a complete locking up of the working capital of the country in an idle surplus, we propose to to taste every day thirty or forty samples of wine, occasionally liquors and rum, without ever swallowing any part of them. After the wheels of industry may not be entirely stopped by a complete locking up of the working capital of the country in an idle surplus, we propose to taste every day thirty or forty samples of the taste every day thirty or forty samples of the taste every day thirty or forty samples of the wine, occasionally liquors and rum, without ever swallowing any part of them. After the work of building the new Casino at the wealth of the country in an industries with which to ever swallowing any part of them. After the work of building the part of them. After the work of the work of the work of the wealth of the country in an industries with which to taste every day thirty or fo down on a chair, and again covered his face with his hand.

A temptation, powerful, horrible, had rushed into his heart. Should he take her yord?—pay her, and let her go drink one and a half litres of wine with each meal. This number exceeds the number of apoplexies in any city of the world. Dr. Marandon did not notice any symptoms of intoxication in Burgundy tasters, although some of them would swallow the samples. He remarks that tea-tasters always swallow some tea, and this fact, he says, explains the

nervous symptoms they are affected with. A Clean Campaign.

[Brooklyn Eagle-dem.] We observe with pleasure the evidence of a purpose on the part of democratic orators and journalists to conduct this campaign without resort to exaggeration and personalities. This is all the more gratifying for the contrast which it offers to the course pursued by the more bitter republican "organs." The abuse and ridicule of President Cleveland, in which the latter indulge, is so offensive to intelligent republicans that, if it has any effect at all, it must be unfavorable to the cause which it is designed to promote.

An Indignant Judge. [Texas Siftings.] Judge-"You have been convicted of forging a check for \$96." Doomed Man-"I hope your honor will take into consideration that it is a small amount.

"Just so. I do take that fact into considera-"I'm glad to hear that." "It is my opinion that the man who forged a check for \$96, not having sufficient self-respect to make it at least an even \$100, deserves no mercy. Ten years at hard labor."

The Two Offers. [New York Herald.] A high tariff and low wages is the republican offer; free raw materials and high wages is the